

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 10/618,817

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 9 and 10 are objected to, because of the informalities described on pages 2-3 of the Office Action.

Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Sanyo Electric Co. (JP-10-164385).

Claims 2-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With regard to the claim objections, Applicant amends the claims as suggested by the Examiner.

For claims 5-7, Applicant amends claim 5 to recite the meaning of each of the parameters in the equation of claim 5, and claim 7 is amended to delete the "in accordance with a predetermined value" portion of the claim, thereby removing the basis for the rejection.

Turning to the prior art rejection, Applicant has the following comments.

Applicant amends claim 2 by rewriting claim 2 in independent form including all of the limitations of claim 1. This amendment should place claims 2-7 in form for allowance, based on the indicated allowability of claims 2-7. Claim 1 is canceled.

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Claim 8 is amended to add a feature analogous to the limitations of claim 2. Along with this amendment of claim 8, Applicant cancels claim 9 and amends claim 10 to depend from claim 8. Applicant submits that claims 8 and 10 are allowable over the prior art, for reasons analogous to the indicated allowability of claims 2-7.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

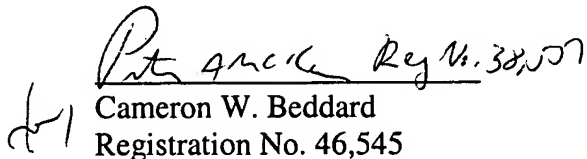
Respectfully submitted,

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